

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.-14. Cancelled

15. (New) A method for improving the body taste of food comprising adding to a food a decomposed substance of a vegetable fat and oil composition, said composition comprising 1% by weight or more of an n-6 long-chain highly unsaturated fatty acid having 18 or more carbon atoms and 3 or more double bonds, and/or an ester thereof, wherein said decomposed substance is obtained by oxidation of said composition via heating.

16. (New) A method for improving the body taste of food comprising adding an extract of a decomposed substance of a vegetable fat and oil composition, said composition comprising 1% by weight or more of an n-6 long-chain highly unsaturated fatty acid having 18 or more carbon atoms and 3 or more double bonds, and/or an ester thereof, wherein said decomposed substance is obtained by oxidation of said composition via heating.

17. (New) The method according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the n-6 long-chain highly unsaturated fatty acid is arachidonic acid or γ -linolenic acid.

18. (New) A method for improving the body taste of food comprising adding to a food a decomposed substance of a vegetable fat and oil composition, said composition comprising aldehyde, ketone, alcohol and 1% by weight or more of an n-6 long-chain highly unsaturated fatty acid having 18 or more carbon atoms and 3 or more double bonds, and/or an ester thereof, wherein said decomposed substance is obtained by oxidation of said composition via heating.

19. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein said aldehydes are selected from the group consisting of pentanal, hexanal, 2-heptenal, 2-octenal, 2-nonenal, 4-nonenal, 2,4-nonadenal, 2,4-decadienal, 2,5-undecadienal, 2,4,7-decatrienal, and 2,4,7-tridecatrienal.

20. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein said ketones are selected from the group consisting of 2-heptanone, 3-octanone, 2-octanone, 3-octen-2-one, 2,3-octanedione, and 4-nonenone.

21. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein said alcohol is selected from the group consisting of 1-octen-3-ol, 2-methyle-3-octanol, and 1,2-heptanediol.